

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 03843 250425Z

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ACTION CU-04

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R 250401Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 778
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DEPT FOR CU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC/JA
SUBJ: STAGS DOWNS, RAVITCH AND ZUCCOTTI

1. TWO BULLSEYES IN A ROW IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE,
BUT PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE THAT CURRENT MAJOR
PACKAGED PROGRAM ON URBAN AFFAIRS WILL BE AT LEAST AS
SUCCESSFUL AS EXCELLENT ECONOMICS PROGRAM LAST AUTUMN.

2. INDIVIDUAL APPEARANCES BY RAVITCH AND DOWNS VERY
GOOD. NATIONAL SEMINAR IN NAGOYA SUPERB. THREE
SPEAKERS COMPLEMENT ONE ANOTHER EXTREMELY WELL. VERY
ACTIVE DISCUSSION KEPT TO CENTRAL TOPICS. PRESENTATIONS
BROUGHT OUT CLEARLY THE VARIED AND OFTEN IMAGINATIVE
MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY PRIVATE AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
IN USA TO IMPROVE URBAN LIFE. SUPPORTED POST OBJECTIVES
EXCEPTIONALLY WELL. U.S. RACE PROBLEM, AN ASPECT OF
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO JAPANESE,
WAS TOUCHED ON FREQUENTLY IN FRANK BUT FUNDAMENTALLY
CONSTRUCTIVE AND OPTIMISTIC FASHION.

3. ZUCCOTTI PROVIDED VERY VALUABLE ADDITIONAL DIMEN-
SION. HIS EXPOSITION OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT WAS
REVEALATION EVEN TO JAPANESE FAMILIAR WITH U.S. URBAN
PLANNING. POST WOULD OF COURSE PREFERRED HAVE HIM
LONGER, BUT HIS PARTICIPATION NATIONAL SEMINAR VERY
USEFUL. POST RECOMMENDS ALL THREE WITHOUT RESERVA-
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TIONS AS SPEAKERS ELSEWHERE.

4. STORMY, THUNDEROUS, PROLONGED APPLAUSE TO CU
AND AGENCY FOR PROVIDING POST WITH YET ANOTHER FIRST-
CLASS SET OF SPEAKERS. KEEP IT UP.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

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